Primitive Baptist Association. Fishers River

Minutes

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MINUTES
OF THE
FISHERS RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
Held with the Church at Rockhouse, Stokes County, North Carolina, Friday, Saturday and Second Sunday, August, 8, 9, 10, 1919.

OFFICERS:
Elder W. H. Atkinson, Moderator, R. 1, Round Peak, N. C.
Elder J. P. Stone, Clerk, R. 1, Francisco, N. C.

Printed at the
Messenger of Truth Office,
Laurel Fork, Virginia,
1919.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS.

ELDERS

G. Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
A. M. Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
C. B. Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
H. Cain,.....R. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C.
G. O. Key.....Pilot Mountain, N. C.
W. H. Atkinson,.....R. 1, Round Peak, N. C.
H. D. Mickey,.....R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C.
J. M. Royal,.....Thurman, N. C.
J. L. Pyrtle,.....R. 1, Westfield, N. C.
F. P. Stone,.....R. 1, Francisco, N. C.
George Denny,.....R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C.
James Creed.....R. 1, Ararat, N. C.
D. Collins,.....R. 1, Pinnacle, N. C.
R. H. Riggan,.....R. F. D., Mt. Airy, N. C.
J. R. Cruise,.....Mt. Airy, N. C.
J. W. Beasley,.....R. 5, Mt. Airy N. C.
Jesse Dunbar,.....Rockford, N. C.
J. S. Morrison,.....R. 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.

LICENTIATES

W. J. Key,.....Ararat, N. C.
J. Key,.....Winston-Salem, N. C.
Charley Adams,.....R. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C.
C. W. Stone,.....Rockford, N. C.
A. B. Key,.....Rusk, N. C.

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PROCEEDINGS.

1. The services were introduced with singing and prayer by Elder G. O Key, and the introductory sermon preached by Elder W. F. Pruitt, of Upper Country Line, from the text: "Follow thou me."—St. John 21:19.

2. After an intermission, the messengers assembled in the house; and after prayer by G. P. Allen, from Zion Association, letters from the different churches were read, received and the messengers seated.

3. Organized by re-electing Elder W. H. Atkinson Moderator, and Elder F. P. Stone, Clerk, and Brother G. J. Key, assistant Clerk.

4. Seated Correspondents and Visitors, as follows: From Zion, Elders G. P. Allen, R. T. Monday and J. D. Easter, correspondents, and Elder J. A. Moxley, visitor; From Mayo, G. R. Cammell, G. C. Shelton, Elders G. D. Staples, H. V. Hutchens and G. M. Trent, correspondents, Elders L. T. Tucker, J. W. Beasley, J. A. Fagg, and Brethren J. D. Young, W. H. Freeman, S. J. Corn, J. E. Hutchens, A. M. Flippin, H. L. Craddock, B. F. Craddock, T. W. Tilley, Lee Tilley, A. A. Jefferson, Jim Jefferson and W. T. Collins, visitors; From New River, Elder S. L. Moran, correspondent, and Elder H. V. Cole, visitor; From Smiths River, Elder L. J. Gilbert, correspondent; From Salem, Elder S. J. Reich, correspondent, and C. A. Sprinkle and Ellis Tate, Visitors; From Upper Country Line, Elder W. F. Pruitt, correspondent, and J. R. Jones, Visitor. Received a file of minutes from Staunton River, Senter, Salem, Roaring River, Lower Country Line, Zion, Ebenezer, Mountain, Little River, Kehukee, Abbotts Creek, New River and Pig River associations. And Prof. H. E. Oliphant, from Danville Association, of Ind.

5. Called for Petitionary Letters—none received.

6. Agreed that the Moderator and Clerk appoint all committees, and they appointed Elder J. W. Creed, J. T. Riggan

and B. P. Smith to serve with them as a Committee on Arrangements; the Moderator and Messengers of this church a Committee on preaching; J. M. Eldridge and G. J. Key a Committee on Finance; and Elder J. W. Beasley and W. F. Nixon a Committee to distribute Corresponding minutes.

7. The Committee on preaching reported, for Saturday, H. V. Cole, L. I. Gilbert, J. A. Moxley, S. L. Moran, R. T. Monday and G. P. Allen; and for Sunday, G. M. Trent, S. J. Reich, H. T. Hutchens, O. J. Denny and J. A. Fagg.

8. Adjourned till Saturday, 9 o'clock, a. m.

Saturday, August 9, 1919.

1. The deliberations were opened with prayer by Elder J. A. Fagg, from Mayo.

2. Called the Roll and struck out the names of absentees.

3 The report of the Committee on Arrangements was received and the committee discharged.

4. Read Covenant, Articles of Faith, Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

5. Read the obituaries of Elder Wm. M. Stone, and Deacons Albert Smith and F. R. Stone, which were approved and ordered that they be attached to these minutes.

6. The Circular Letter was read, received and ordered attached to these minutes.

7. The presbytery sent to Fishers River reported the ordination of Green Clifton to the office of deacon.

8. The presbytery to Albion reported the ordination of E. D. Slate to the office of deacon.

9. The presbytery to Union was excused, and agreed to wait the futher request of the church.

10. The Rock Spring Committee reported as follows: To the Fishers River Primitive Baptist Association:

We, your committee appointed to locate the boundaries of the Rock Spring Church lot, beg leave to submit the following report:

We met on the premises on the 28th day of July, 1919,

and by agreement with Luther Park, who owns the land adjoining the lot, located the boundaries as follows :

Beginning at Maud Winnie's head tombstone, formally a Black Oak, and runs North variation 4° 70 links to South bank of public road ; thence South 72° West, with the old road, 3½ chains ; thence South 51° West 2½ chains to a planted rock ; thence South 20° East 3½ chains to a stake and pointers ; thence North 72° East 4 chains to stake and pointers in the E. B. Hampton line ; thence with said line to the beginning. Containing 2 acres, more or less. Said lines marked, corners established and agreed upon this August 28, 1919.

J. M. Eldridge }
J. T. Riggan } Com.

The report was received and their appointment continued

11. In compliance with the request of Laurel Spring church, Bro. J. T. Riggan was appointed to write the obituary of Deacon C. W. York.

12. In compliance with the request of Pilot Mountain Church, Deacon Wm. Simmons was appointed to write the obituary of Deacon S. A. Taylor.

13. Called for report of Correspondents. The report of those who attended was received, and those who did not were excused.

14. Appointed Correspondents as follows : To Mayo, Elders J. Walter Beasley, D. Collins and F. P. Stone ; To Mountain, Elder J. M. Royal ; To Zion, Elders J. Walter Beasley and J. W. Creed ; To Salem, Elders H. D. Mickey, W. H. Atkinson, G. O. Key, F. P. Stone, and Brethren H. M. Southern, J. L. Tilley and J. E. Tilley ; To Roaring River, Elder J. M. Royal and Martin Payne ; and to Upper Country Line, Elders G. O. Key and J. S. Morrison.

15. Elder Morrison was appointed to write the next Circular Letter.

16. Agreed that we hold the next session of this association with the church at Conners Grove, 4 miles N. E. from Mt. Airy, N. C., to commence on Friday before the second Sunday in August, 1920.

17. Agreed to have the usual number of 1,200 of these minutes printed and distributed as usual.

18. Agreed to give our Clerk the usual fee of $10.00

19. Agreed that we give to our Moderator $10 00 for his services.

20 The Committee on Finance reported as follows:

Received from the churches		$48 45
Remainder in Clerk's hands		$26.86
Paid J T. Riggan	$5 00	
Paid J M. Eldridge	8.00	
Paid expense of Committee	17 31	
Paid Clerk fee	10.00	
Paid for printing and postage	25.00	
Paid to our Moderator	10 00	
Total	$75 31	$75.31

21. Agreed that the Clerk turn over to Brother J. M. Eldridge $17.31 to pay expenses of the Rock Springs Com.

22. Offered a resolution of thanks to the Brethren, Sisters and Friends for their hospital entertainment of the association.

23. Adjourned to meet at the time and place appointed.

W. H. ATKISON, Mod.

F. P. STONE, Clerk.

REMARKS: After the association had adjourned, it was agreed by the brethren to receive Prof. H. E. Oliphant as a visitor from the Danville Association of Indiana, and place his name in our minutes.

Prof. H. E. Oliphant is a Pro. of the University of Chicago, Ill., and a member of the Danville Association, of Indiana. His brother. Dr. H. N. Oliphant are great grandsons of Elder Thomas Oliphant, the first moderator of Ararat church, and who emigrated to Indiana in 1827 or 1828, selling his property to Elder John Jones, of Patrick county, Virginia. Elder Jones moved on the property and was elected as moderator, to fill the place vacated by Elder Oliphant. Elder Jones served till his death, 1875. He served as Moderator of the Fishers River Association about 30 years. Elder Gabriel Denny, the present pastor of Ararat, succeeded Elder John Jones.—F. P STONE. CLERK.

THE PREACHING.

Friday, P. M. — 1, Elder J. William Beasley, John 21:15; 2, Elder D. G. Staples, 1 Peter 1:5; 3, Elder J. A. Moxley, 2 Tim. 4:2

Saturday—1, Elder H. V. Cole, Prov. 16:5; 2, L. I. Gilbert, John 17:9; [3] J. A. Moxley, Eccl. 31:1; 4, Elder Sam Moran Eph. 2:4; 5, Elder R. T. Monday, Job 7:17; 6, Elder G. P. Allen. Ps. 89:15.

Sunday—1, Elder G. M. Trent, Ps 42:11; 2, Elder S J. Reich, S. S. 2:10; 3, Elder H. F. Hutchens, Ps. 23:1; 4, Elder O. J. Denny, John 11:25,26; 5, Elder J. A. Fagg, Matt. 4:19.

The preaching was harmonious and a greater manifestation of the power of God we have never seen in any audience, for which we feel greatful to God the Father, the Giver of ever good and perfect gift.

Two dear siters came telling of the blessedness of a sinner saved by grace.—F. P. STONE. Clerk.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Being appointed to write this our annual Circular Letter, I undertake it, realizing that it is not for fun or fashion, but for the benefit of the household of faith—feeling my weakness, I undertake to do so with an aching heart ; but trusting that God will so direct me that the message I now pen will be as bread cast upon the waters.

Our association has been under a burden caused by the evil spirit, or a missunderstanding among us. It appears as though we will have to have a Moses to lead us out. But the Lord said to Paul, "My grace is sufficient for thee." But we are all proud to admit that we have felt the presence of the Lord ; that we have had the golden scepter held out to us, conveying to us a welcome to stay in his presence, basking in the sunshine of his countenance, feasting in his banqueting house, with his banner of love spread over us. That, and it alone, makes us feel like falling at the feet of our enemies and praying for them that despitefully use us, realizing daily the need of God's saving efficacy : for as Paul said we, too, must say : "I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good things." But in our spirit dwells that immortal life, which is Christ in us the hope of glory. So

"Trust Him, ye saints, in all your ways,
Pour out your hearts before His face ;
When helpers fail and foes invade,
God is our all sufficient aid."

He that is without sin, let him cast the first stone. Let us first consider that if we will not forgive those who trespass against us, how can we expect our heavenly Father to forgive us ? Let each one of us commence at home, sweeping our door-steps clean, getting the beam out of our own eye, and then offer to help our brother. Grace has brought us safe this far, and we hope it will lead us home. We are bound together in one united cause, and that is for the upbuilding of God's militant kingdom on earth, the comforting of God's little ones. So, why should we strive one against another ? for we are brethren in hope and in tribulation till God shall see it best to liberate us from this earthly tabernacle. Then may it be our happy lot to meet where our association will never break up, and where our Sabbaths never end.

Your unworthy servant.

ELDER F. P. STONE.

OBITUARIES.

Deacon Albert Smith was born in Patrick county, Virginia, May 15, 1842: died May 11, 1918, aged 75 years, 11 months and 26 days.

He married Lemina Adams, daughter of Deacon Samuel Adams, Oct. 1, 1865. To this union were born 3 boys and 5 girls. One boy and two girls died in infancy.

After his marriage, he settled in Surry county, N. C., near Westfield, where he spent the remainder of his days.

He joined an arm of the church in the grove, near where Albion church house now stands, in the summer of 1898; and he, and his dear wife, became a part of the body constituted into the church at Albion, July 8, 1898, and on that date was ordained a deacon, which office he filled till death.

Brother Smith was a standard for his community. Being a successful farmer, he provided amply for his family, with plenty for old age. He was a hospital host in his home to his neighbors, friends and all true lovers of the truth. He was faithful in the discharge of his duty as he saw it, and was ever ready to lend a helping hand in any way he could.

His beloved wife died in Feb., 1916, and he spent the remainder of his days with his grandson, Mr Walter Smith, a motherless boy whom he and Sister Smith raised up to call them blessed.

Brother Smith volunteered and served four years in the Confederate army, coming out without being hurt by bullet or sword, showing that the Lord was with him, keeping and preserving him.

But now his race is run and his last battle is over. So, children and loved ones, look toward that city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God: for there we hope to meet those gone before.

His pastor,
ELDER F. P. STONE.

R. 1, Francisco, N. C.

Deacon Lemuel B. Alburty was born May 11, 1842: died May 5, 1916.

He married Lucindy White about the year 1861; joined the church at Center, about 1877; was chosen clerk about the year 1879, serving untill his death; was ordained Deacon Nov., 1899, and served faithfully in that capacity until his death.

He left his wife and six children, three sons and three daughters, to mourn his loss. All are yet living.

He was a Confederate soldier, faithful to the call of his country; a good citizen and neighbor, a kind husband and father. He proved his faith by his works, by discharging the various duties assigned to him until it pleased God to call him home to rest from all his toiles here.

ELDER GABRIEL DENNY.

Deacon F. R. Stone was born in Surry county, N. C., under the shadow of the historical Pilot Mountain, March 6, 1828: died March 30, 1918, making his pilgrimage on earth 90 years and 24 days. He was married to Sarah Caroline Poindexter March 4, 1852, to which union were born 13 children, 3 of which died in infancy and 10 lived to manhood and womanhood. His companion, 7 children, 8 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren preceded him

to the grave. Four daughters, Mrs. A. J. Tayler, of R. 1, Ararat, N. C.; Mrs. M. A. Fulk, of R. 3, Pilot Mountain, N. C.; Mrs. S. W. Stone, of Osowatomia, Kans.; and Mrs. J. H. Sheets, of Pilot Mountain, N. C.; 2 sons, J. A. Stone, of Spokane, Wash., and the writter; 66 grandchildren and 80 great-grandchildren survive him. He and our mother joined the Missionary Baptists in 1862 or 63. But each became dissatisfied and, in Oct., 1866, joined the Primitive Baptists at Ararat church, N. C., and were baptized in the following November. He was ordained a deacon in Sept., 1868, and served his church faithfully and acceptably till death claimed him. At the outbreak of the Civil war he, having moved to Grayson county, Virginia, May 15, 1862, serving in 51st Virginia Regiment, Company K, with S. M. Dickey Captain. He was in the battles of New Market, Winchester, Cedar Creek, Currenstown, and around Richmond, and came out without a wound. He came home on a furlough a few days before the surrender and did not return. But our mother, suffered many privations, had left Virginia, and was with her father. They then settled near his birth place, where they remained eating their own bread in the sweat of their face, till 1872, when he took charge of grist mill, on Toms Creek, two and one-half miles west of Pilot Mountain, N. C., where, by industry and honest dealings, and with the help of an industrious companion, made a sufficiency for themselves and family, and something to spare. His door was ever open to his friends and brethren, especially to traveling preachers. We well remember in our boyhood days that Elders Isaac Webb, A. J. Taylor and I. J. Taylor, and others, made our home theirs while passing that way. In 1889, he removed to the farm again, where he labored faithfully till old age rendered him unable. He and our mother were granted letters in Nov, 1896, and were in the constitution of the church at Pilot Mountain, where they remained, filling their seats as faithfully as they well could, the remainder of their days. After the death of our mother (July 5, 1911) he made his home with his children, but spending most of the time with Mrs A. J. Taylor. On his last birthday, I drove 20 miles to the home of my sister, Mrs. M. A. Fulks, where he was, taking him to Ararat church that day, and to Pilot Mountain church that night to hear Elder Samuel McMillan, of High Point, preach, which he seemed to enjoy very much. It was the last preaching he ever heard. I conveyed him to my home next day, where, on March 30, 1918, he died from a stroke of paralysis. On April the 1, we conveyed his remaines to Union church and laid him beside our dear mother, to await till the resurrection morning.

The king of terrors did appear—
His soul had peace within—
The monster, Death, he did not fear,
For he had lost his sting.

His youngest son,
ELDER F. P. STONE.

R. 1, Francisco, N. C.

Elder Wm. M. Stone was born in Surry county, N. C., July 14, 1850: died March 18, 1918, aged 67 years, 8 months and 4 days.

He was married to Lousetta Boyles (who preceded him to the grave) Sept. 18, 1870, to whom were born 12 children, 2 of whom died in infancy.

He joined the church at Ararat, in May, 1885, and was baptized in June

following, by Elders G. and C. B. Denny; was ordained a deacon, in Aug., 1888; and an Elder, in Feb., 1891. He and his wife joined the church at Volunteer, by letter, Saturday before the third Sunday in Aug., 1893, where they remained consistent members till death called them home.

Brother Stone was a farmer by trade and provided well for his family. He served as moderator of his home church for several years, and up to one year before he died. He was not as eloquent as some, but we can truthfully say we had no man stronger in the faith nor sounder in doctrine than he. But now his labors are over, his race run, and he is gone to his reward.

So, to his children, we will say, Grieve not. He is only gone before. May we be resigned to God's will till we meet him who is gone before.

How gentle was the stroke divine,
Which bowed his head in death;
How peaceful did his soul resign
His friends, his life, his breath.

Written, at the request of the church, by

ELDER F. P. STONE.

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO THE SEVERAL CHURCHES.

Churches	Clerks	Postoffices	No. of Min.
Albion	E. D. Slate,	R. 1, Francisco, N. C	45
Ararat	Eld. Geo. Denny,	R. 3, Pinnacle, N. C	50
Conners Grove	T. J. Gates,	R. 2, Box 13, Mt. Airy, N. C	25
Deep Creek	J. D. Spencer,	Siloam, N. C	35
Fishers River	Wilson Creed,	White Plains, N. C	25
Fishers Gap	Mahlon Low,	Low Gap, N. C	45
Franklin	Eld. R. H. Riggan,	Dobson, N. C	50
Hogans Creek	S. D. Key,	Rockford, N. C	40
Laurel Springs	Z. E. Chandler,	R. 3, Mt. Airy, N. C	25
Liberty	R. S. Poindexter,	Crutchfield, N. C	30
Little Vine	Jacob Mitchell,	Dobson, N. C	40
Mulberry	J. M. Eldridge,	R. 1, State Road, N. C	30
Pilot Mtn	J. H. Sheets,	Pilot Mountain, N. C	60
Rock House	W. P. Smith,	R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C	55
State Road	W. F. Nixon,	State Road, N, C	25
Stoney Creek	Elder J. S. Morrison,	R. 3, Mt. Airy, N. C	35
Stuarts Creek	R. W. Mosley,	R.1, Mt. Airy, N. C	65
Toms Creek	S. L. Arrington,	R. 2, Mt. Airy, N. C	85
Union	G. J. Key,	Ararat, N. C	80
Volunteer	P. W. Lawrence,	R. 1, Pinnacle, N. C	30

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO ASSOCIATIONS.

Associations.	Clerks.	Address.	No. of Min.
Abbotts Creek,	A. L. Owen,	R. 2, Salisbury, N. C.,	15
Contentnea,	J. P. Tingle,	Grantsboro, N. C.,	22
Ebenezer,	W. L. Carpenter,	Brightwood, Virginia,	14
Kehukee,	Elder B. S. Cowing,	R. 2, Williamston, N. C.,	40
Ketocton,	Elder T. S. Dalton,	2425 Keyworth Ave., Balt., Md.	15
Little River,	Elder J. A. T. Jones,	McCullers, N. C.,	22
L. Country Line,	J. H. Gooch,	Stem, N. C.,	15
Mayo,	S. G. Dobyns,	Claudville, Virginia,	25
Mountain,	J. M. Rector,	Baywood, Virginia,	17
New River,	Elder F. P. Branscome,	Laurel Fork, Virginia,	24
Pig River,	Elder E. L. Blakenship,	Boone Mill, Virginia,	24
Roaring River,	J. A. Brooks,	Sparta, N. C.	11
Staunton River,	R. L. Dodson,	Ringgold, Virginia	17
U. County Line,	S. J. Hall,	Cedar Grove, N. C.	15
Zion,	Elder R. T. Monday,	R. R. Mt. Airy, N. C.	11
Senter,	J. F. Hartzog,	Boone, N. C.	13
Smith River,	Elder J. D. Cockram,	Stuart, Virginia.	20
Salem,	W. L. Teague,	Winston-Salem, N. C.	9

CHURCHES	NAMES OF CHURCHES	Church Meetings	Ordained Min.	Licensed Min.	Received by Ex.	Received by Let.	Restored	Dismissed by Let.	Excluded	Deceased	No. in Fellowship	Contributions
Albion,	E. D. Slate, B. P. Smith and J. M. Hooker,	4									36	3.15
Ararat,	W. E. Nixon, J. D. Key and J. M. Jones,	2	4					1		3	44	1.50
Conners Grove,	Elder J. W. Beasley, T. J. Gates and Bob Beasley,	2	1		3	2				1	28	1.75
Deep Creek,	S. P. Owens, R. L. Hall and J. H. Spencer,	1						2		2	40	1.50
Fishers River,	Green Clifton, John Nichols and Wilson Creed,										15	1.20
Fishers Gap,	Mahlon Low,	2								1	50	2.10
Franklin,	Elder R. H. Riggan and J. T. Riggan,	1								2	38	1.50
Hogans Creek,	S. D. Key, Joe Key and J. W. Wall,	3								1	42	1.50
Laurel Springs,	Z. E. Chandler and Melvin Southern,	2				2				1	21	1.50
Liberty,	Richard Poindexter and William Holyfield,	1			1					1	31	1.50
Little Vine,	Martin Payne and Jacob Mitchell,	4			8					1	51	1.95
Mulberry,	J. M. Eldridge and J. D. Freeman,	1		1							26	1.50
Pilot Mountain,	Elder G. O. Key and William Simmons,	1			2	1					51	4.00
Rock House,	J. P. Slaughter, J. E. Tilley and Elder D. Collins,	2	2								65	4.30
State Road,	Elder J. M. Royal and W. F. Nixon,	3									23	1.60
Stoney Creek,	A. T. Stone, J. L. Tilley and E. F. Simmons,	3	1		2					2	27	3.50
Sturts Creek,	R. W. Mosley and J. D. Jones,	3	1	1	1						79	3.50
Toms Creek,	A. Q. Hunter, S. L. Arrington and Y. W. Simmons,	2	1	1			1			5	101	5.25
Union,	G. J. Key, L. P. Venable and J. W. Creed,	4	2	2				5	1	2	81	4.00
Volunteer,	Elder H. D. Mickey and T. R. Sams,	4									30	2.05
	Todals,		12	5	17	5	1	8	1	22	879	$48.45

DATE DUE			

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Fishers River.
Minutes.

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